NCC Minutes 12/18/06

Open meeting: 7:05 p.m.

Present: A. Watts, L. Carroll, R. Konisky, R. LaBranche, B. Byrne, L. Hill, Alt. S. Shope Guest- J. Vienneau resident

1) Ongoing Administrative Business:

- a. Treasurer's report: read by A. Watts, motion to accept A. Watts, seconded by S. Shope, all in favor YES.
- b. Minutes 11/20/06: motion to accept as corrected by A. Watts, seconded by R. LaBranche, all in favor YES.

2) Prime Wetlands Update:

- a. Digitizing Maps: M. West could not digitize maps as town maps not done. Will be very difficult to notify abutters as the Selectman have requested without this tool. Also \$10,000 NHEP grant requires digitized maps be done. (Requirements for grant actually due 12/06 but should be able to get 6 mos. extension.) Need to vote on whether to approve funds now or wait until next grant program in 6/07. This will be a very useful tool for the town in general. Estimates from F. Rossi and Cartographic Assoc. range from \$3,000-\$3,500. A. Watts requested R. Konisky contact them for firmer quotes and timetables. It will take about a month to do the town and one to do the wetlands overlay. Also may still have the other \$3,000 grant coming in that R. Konisky has worked on.
- b. Timing- may be necessary to delay until next year, as indicated by previous discussion. Should still be able to meet the requirements of the NHEP grant in time. Also, the planning board needs to be on board and they've been having trouble meeting a quorum. A. Watts spoke with Bill Meserve who said they had been reviewing the State Wetlands Plan. The board is interested in the village zoning ordinance for the town and would like to bundle this with the Prime Wetlands proposal. R. Konsisky and L. Carroll expressed concern that the village zoning wouldn't pass and therefore prime wetlands with it. A. Watts added that the proposal includes trading development rights which would be an incentive. Also, reiterated that we won't be ready for 3/07 so would need to do a special ballot.

c. General discussion:

- A. Watts met with D. Wiggin from D.E.S.. She feels that Prime Wetlands designation definitely increases the level of protection and increases the regulatory obligations of the town. Building permits with potential impacts would be flagged and need to be reviewed by the Conservation Comm. then turned over to the state. Lengthens the process to 80 days. We are not liable if we allow a permit to go through. She also stated that there has not been any provable decrease in property values secondary to designation. Salem, NH did vote to undesignate.

- c. General discussion (cont.)
 - D. Wiggin would be willing to hold a public hearing at D.E.S. as it is very difficult to come to each town. Landowners can also meet with her directly.
 - S. Shope asked if it would effect commercial development. A. Watts replied that it would (i.e. if the town sewage plant were to try to expand).
- d. A. Watts motions to authorize up to \$3,500 to digitize town tax maps, L. Carroll seconds, all in favor YES.
 - A. Watts motions to authorize M. West to issue Prime Wetlands report recommending Tiers 1 & 2, B. Byrne seconds, all in favor YES.
 - B. Byrne also would like direction of water flow indicated on maps. A. Watts replied that we have the information to do this ourselves.

3) NAWCA Update:

D. Hyde met with the Selectman who were receptive but F. Lane does not recommend doing without compensation to the town from the Nature Cons.. D. Hyde has replied there are no funds so this probably will not go through.

4) Bills:

Devine, Milne and Branche-legal fees for Greenway bond = \$2,500. We previously agreed to pay these and the Selectman have approved this. A. Watts motions to pay, L. Carroll seconds, all in favor YES.

5) Next meeting: 01/15/07